(a) the progress made so far for the augmentation of TV transmission network in Jabalpur, including the erection of a TV tower; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). A high power (10KW) TV transmitter in replacement of the existing low power (100W) TV transmitter is presently under implementation at Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh. Construction of the transmitter building has been completed and the tower has been constructed to a height of 50 Mts as against proposed height of 220 Mts. The transmitter and TVRO equipment have also been installed. Pending completion of the permanent tower, the transmitter has been installed on a temporary mast, as an interim set-up and has started giving test transmission on a reduced power of 1 KW. As per present indications, the TV transmitter at Jabalpur is envisaged to be commissioned into service on its full installed power by the middle of 1993.

Enlargement of Equity base of IA and AI

4035. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enlarge the quity base of the Indian Airlines and th Air India by converting them into public limited companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI (MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Two Companies under the Companies Act, 1956 are intended to be incorporated to replace the existing Air Corporations. These airlines are intended to be restructured with a view to mobilise capital to meet growth requirements without avoidable burden on the Government; provide opportunity of participation in the shareholding of the companies to workers in the first instance, and later, if necessary, to mutual funds, financial institutions and general public; professionalise the management and infuse greater vigour and dynamism into the working of the airlines.

Flight from Ahmedabad to Nairobi

4036. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to operate direct flight for Nairobi from Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI (MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Deaths of Wiremen of the DESU

4037. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to check the deaths of wiremen of the DESU on duty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cause of each death has since been investigated; and

(d) if so, the details of its findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). Steps taken by DESU to avoid fatal accidents/electrocution of the Linemen etc., include proper training and issue of various safety gadgets and tools for safe operations on the hot lines. DESU is also adopting underground system for electrification as far as possible. All cases of electrical assistants in DESU are investigated by the Accidident Enquiry Committee. Findings in certain cases of electrocution of DESU employees reveal that the cause of accident were mainly due to flash-over in the electrical equipment or touching of live parts of liens/ equipments by mistake.

Resignation by Pilots of Air India and Indian Airlines

4038. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trained pilots of the Air India and the Indian Airlines who have resigned to accept jobs abroad; and

(b) the measures taken to provide training to new pilots?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) During the period November, 1987 to March, 1990, 4 Air India pilots resigned; 33 pilots of Indian Airlines resigned during the period 1988 to 1991. Information is not available whether these pilots have accepted jobs abroad.

(b) Both Air India and Indian Airlines have established fullfledged training facilities for various types of aircrafts in their fleets. On the basis of projected requirements, both airlines recruit trainee pilots regularly.

Telecommunication services in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra

4039. SHRI SHANKARRAO KALE:
SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide FAX and Teleprinters and full STD services at various places in Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said facilities are likely to be provided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to provide Teleprinter service at Rahuri Combined Post and Telegraph office, STD services at Newasa, Sangamner and Shrigonda and FAX at Sub-divisional Headquarters having STD facility.

(c) During 1992-93.

[*Translation*]

Link of Gram Sabhas with Exchanges in Uttar Pradesh

4040. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Gram Sabhas of Siddartha nagar district of Uttar Pradesh which are proposed to be linked with other exchanges; under the new plan; and

(b) the number of Gram Sabhas to whom this facility has been provided so far?